

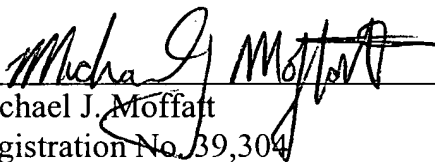
PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit new claims 9 - 23 for consideration. Applicants further request that the prior art considered in the parent application be considered in the present application. Having reviewed the cited prior art from the parent application, Applicants believe that the newly submitted claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record. Early notification of same is respectfully requested.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Account No. 21-0800; likewise if any overpayment has been made, please credit Account No. 21-0800.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By:   
Michael J. Moffatt  
Registration No. 39,304

200 Oceangate, Suite 1550  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
Telephone: (562) 432-0453  
Facsimile: (562) 435-6014  
Customer No. 27629